**In the Specification:**

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 2, lines 1-6 as shown below:**

[0003]

Also, in the case where an optical waveguide is dependent on polarization or in the case where a special AWG is used to prevent four-wave mixing in WDM communications, a polarization-maintaining fiber is used so that a single polarized wave is introduced in the waveguide.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 2, lines 7-12 as shown below:**

At this time, for the polarized wave introduced in the waveguide, the necessary direction of the polarized wave has been determined, so that it is necessary to adjust the end face of the polarization-maintaining fiber in the polarization-maintaining optical fiber array to ~~this~~ the direction of the polarized wave.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 2, line 24--page 3, line 4 as shown below:**

[0005]

However, if the pitch between the polarization-maintaining fibers is shortened, the coatings of polarization-maintaining fibers come into contact with each other. Therefore, if some polarization-maintaining ~~fiber is~~fibers are rotationally adjusted, the adjacent ~~other~~ polarization-maintaining fibers are interferingly rotated, so that fine adjustment must be made again.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 3, lines 5-8 as shown below:**

For this reason, all of the polarization-maintaining fibers in the fiber array with multiple fibers must be adjusted by repeating these processes, so that this work requires ~~very much~~a great deal of time and labor.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 3, lines 10-14 as shown below:**

[0006]

In particular, in the case of AWG, since the number of channels is on the order of 40 channels, it is very difficult to rotationally adjust all of the forty fibers to a predetermined direction, and such adjustment has never been made with success industrially.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 5, lines 2-14, as shown below:**

[0009]

The present invention has been achieved to solve the above problems with the prior art, and accordingly an object thereof is to provide a ribboned polarization-maintaining fiber in which when a polarization-maintaining optical fiber array is manufactured, the polarization-maintaining ~~fiber~~ fibers need not be rotationally adjusted so as to have a predetermined plane of polarization, so that not only a polarization-maintaining optical fiber array with multiple fibers can be manufactured easily but also the work efficiency and yield can be improved and a manufacturing method therefor, and a polarization-maintaining optical fiber array using the ribboned fiber.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 5, lines 15-21 as shown below:**

[0010]

According to the first aspect of the present invention, there is provided a ribboned polarization-maintaining fiber comprising a plurality of polarization-maintaining fibers,

wherein a ribbon portion having a length of 2 to 300 mm is formed ~~in~~ surrounding at least some of polarization-maintaining fibers.

**Please rewrite the section heading on page 11, line 7, as shown below:**

Detailed Description of ~~Preferred Embodiment~~the Invention

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 11, lines 8-13 as shown below:**

[0017]

A ribboned polarization-maintaining fiber in accordance with the present invention is formed of a plurality of polarization-maintaining fibers, and a ribbon portion having a length of 2 to 300 mm is formed ~~in~~ to surround some of ~~them~~the polarization-maintaining fibers.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 15, lines 5-13 as shown below:**

[0024]

For the ribboned polarization-maintaining fiber in accordance with the present invention, it is important that in the ribbon portion 2, as shown in Fig. 1(c), the polarization-maintaining fibers 12 be fixed by and coated with an adhesive 36, and at least the end faces of the polarization-maintaining fibers 12 which is used as a signal be aligned so as to have a predetermined plane of polarization. As is shown in Figs 19(c) and 1(d), the polarization-maintaining fibers 12 include an optical fiber core portion 14, a stress applying part 16 and a cladding portion 18.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 20, line 26--page 21, line 4 as shown below:**

The ~~a~~ series of convex and concave shapes 5 have a regular pitch and are of a saw shape in this example, but they are not subject to any special restriction. For example, the ~~a~~ series of convex and concave shapes 5 may be disposed discontinuously, or may be a curved wavy shape or the like ~~shape~~.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 30, lines 14-17 as shown below:**

[0048]

~~Examples next, the~~The present invention will be described in more detail with reference to ~~an~~ the following example. The present invention is not limited by the example.

**Please rewrite the paragraph on page 32, lines 10-17 as shown below:**

[0051]

As described above, according to the present invention, when a polarization-maintaining optical fiber array is manufactured, the polarization-maintaining ~~fiber~~ fibers need not be rotationally adjusted so as to have a predetermined plane of polarization, so that not only a polarization-maintained optical fiber array with multiple fibers can be manufactured easily but also the work efficiency and yield can be improved.